

# State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board

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Scott Walker Governor

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#### WISCONSIN MINORITY TEACHER LOAN PROGRAM INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in the Minority Teacher Loan program. This loan is administered by the State of Wisconsin's Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB). If you would like additional information about this program, please contact Deanna Schulz, Grant Specialist- Higher Educational Aids Board, at 608-267-2212 or <a href="Deanna.schulz@wi.gov">Deanna.schulz@wi.gov</a>.

This loan is unique in two ways: First, it may be 100% forgiven provided the loan recipient meets the criteria listed in the forgiveness section. Second, the loan cannot be consolidated with any other loan.

# **Loan Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible to receive a Minority Teacher Loan, a student must:

- ✓ Be a member of a minority population:
  - African American
  - American Indian
  - Hispanic
  - Laotian, Cambodian or Vietnamese who was admitted to the United States after December 31, 1975 (or whose ancestor was) or who is a citizen of Laos, Vietnam, or Cambodia
- ✓ Be a junior or senior undergraduate student or be a graduate student
- ✓ Be enrolled in a Teacher Certification program at a University of Wisconsin system school or a non-profit Independent school in the state of Wisconsin
- ✓ Not currently possess a Wisconsin teacher's license
- ✓ Have a GPA of 2.5 or higher based on a 4.0 scale
- ✓ Be enrolled in school at least half-time
- ✓ Be registered with the Selective Service -if required
- ✓ Be a Wisconsin Resident

#### **Application Process**

To receive a Minority Teacher Loan, students must be nominated by the financial aid office at their school. Nominated students must complete a Minority Teacher Loan Recipient Agreement and Minority Teacher Loan Information Sheet. The completed paperwork must be submitted to HEAB for processing. Only original documents will be accepted. Incomplete or illegible forms will not be processed and will be returned to the student.

If you are a student who meets the eligibility requirements listed in the above section, and are interested in receiving a Minority Teacher Loan, please ask the staff in the financial aid office at your school to consider you for nomination.

#### **Loan Amounts**

Eligible students may receive up to \$2,500 in Minority Teacher Loans per academic school year. The staff at the student's financial aid office determines the specific loan amount for the academic year. The maximum life-time amount any student may borrow is \$5,000.

All loan recipients must promptly notify HEAB of any changes to their name, address, or status. At least once per year, loan recipients must confirm their current name, address, and status with HEAB. Status may include enrollment at a post-secondary institution, degree completion, employment, and teacher license attainment.

## **Loan Repayment**

Loan recipients, who are not eligible for loan forgiveness (see section below), will need to begin making loan payments six months after graduation or withdrawal from the nominating institution.

- The interest rate on the loan is 5%
- The minimum monthly payment is \$50 and is due by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month
- Loans must be paid in full within ten years from the date that re-payment begins

If a loan recipient fails to repay their loan, it will be sent to the Department of Revenue for collections. Loan recipients who are having difficulties making their monthly payments are strongly encouraged to contact the Higher Educational Aids Board to discuss their payment options. Depending on their circumstances, loan recipients may be eligible for temporary deferments of their loans or reduced minimum monthly payments.

#### **Loan Forgiveness**

Loan recipients, who meet the following criteria, will be granted 25% loan forgiveness per school year:

- Hold a Bachelor's or Master's degree
- Be licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to teach in the state of Wisconsin
- Teach full-time in an eligible Wisconsin school district. Eligible school districts are Wisconsin districts with a 29% or higher minority student population or Wisconsin districts that participate in the inter-district public transfer program
- Submit to HEAB a completed employment verification form at the end of the academic year

Please note: Individuals who meet the above criteria, but are only teaching part-time, will have their loan forgiveness prorated (i.e. a teacher who taught 20 hours per week throughout the school year would be granted 12.5% loan forgiveness for that academic year.)

#### **Eligible Wisconsin School Districts:**

# School districts with 29% or higher minority student populations:

Abbotsford	Greenfield	Menominee Indian	Tri-County Area
Arcadia	Gresham	Milwaukee	Verona
Bayfield	Hayward	Nicolet UHS	Walworth J1
Beloit	Kenosha	Norris	Waukesha
Bowler	Lac du Flambeau	Racine	Wausau
Brown Deer	Lake Geneva J1	Saint Francis	Wauwatosa

Crandon Lakeland UHS Sharon J11 West Allis-West Milwaukee Whitewater Unified Cudahy Linn J4 Sheboygan Area Delavan-Darien Madison Metropolitan Shorewood Wis Dept of Corrections Glendale-River Hills Maple Dale-Indian Hill Siren Wis Dept of Health Services Menasha Joint Sun Prairie Area 21<sup>st</sup> Century Prep School-Racine Green Bay

## The following schools are located in Milwaukee County:

Bruce Guadalupe Milwaukee College Prep School for Early Development & Achievement
Capitol West Academy Milwaukee Academy of Science Seeds of Health El
Central City Cyberschool Milwaukee Collegiate Academy Tenor High School

DLH Academy Milwaukee Math and Science Academy Urban Day School
Downtown Montessori Milwaukee Scholars Charter School Veritas High
Escuela Verde North Point Lighthouse Charter Woodlands School

King's Academy Rocketship Southside Community Prep

#### School districts that participate in the inter-district pupil transfer program:

Elmbrook Greendale New Berlin Whitnall

Fox Point-BaysideHamiltonOak Creek-FranklinFranklinMenomonee FallsSouth MilwaukeeGermantownMequon-ThiensvilleWhitefish Bay

Note: This list is subject to change annually.

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